

AFI 3679

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

YAMAMOTO, Shusuke et al.

Group Art Unit: 3679

Serial No.: 09/688,837

Examiner: FERGUSON, Michael P.

Filed: October 17, 2000

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1853

For. PIN CONNECTION STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF CONNECTING
MEMBERS BY PIN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(d)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

Attn: Group Director

April 21, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Documents AF was cited in the European Office Action dated January 21, 2004. A copy of the Office Action is also attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action, a Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee.

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement and was

known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP

Donald W. Hanson : Reg. No. 27,133
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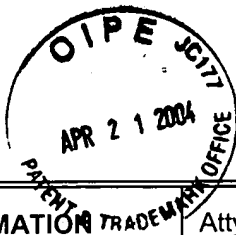
Atty. Docket No. 001358
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 659-2930
Dwh/nk



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO 1449; Office Action; 1 Reference; Check for \$180.00



INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE
CITATION
PTO-1449

Atty. Docket No. 001358

Serial No. 09/688,837

Applicant(s): Shusuke Yamamoto

Filing Date: 10/17/2000

Group Art Unit: 3679

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | Document No. | Name | Date | Class | Subclass | Filing Date (If appropriate) |
|---------------------|--------------|------|------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| _____ | AA | | | | | |
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| _____ | AD | | | | | |
| _____ | AE | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Document No. | Date | Country | Translation (Yes or No) |
|--------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| _____ AF 1,536,885 | 9/15/1967 | FR | no, see European office action |
| _____ AG | | | |
| _____ AH | | | |
| _____ AI | | | |
| _____ AJ | | | |

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OTHER DOCUMENTS

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| _____ AK | European Office Action dated 1/21/04 | | |
| _____ AL | | | |

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Examiner

Date Considered